

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A miniature keyboard that operates by utilizing a finger to touch a capacitance sensitive touchpad. A touchpad is divided up into predefined zones that are assigned to be the desired characters on a keyboard. The touchpad keyboard is relatively small so that it can be coupled to an information appliance and operated in the manner that is customary for the device. For example, the touchpad keyboard can be disposed within a handheld web navigation and alphanumerical data input device which is coupled to a computer or other web browser terminal. The data input device includes both a touchpad keyboard which can be used with fingers, and a separate touchpad surface for activities which include web navigation and cursor control.

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